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HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS
DIET OF JAPAN
1-7-1, NAGATA-CHO,
CHIYODA-KU, TOKYO 100

August 6, 1980

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The Honorable Edmund Muskie
The Secretary of the State

Dear Honorable the Secretary of the State ;

I am writing this letter in a hurry as a member of Japan's House of Counsillors who believes in and deeply respects the democratic tradition of the United States, and as a friend of the great political leader of Korea, Mr. Kim Dae Jung, and am having my secretary go to Washington to personally deliver this letter to you.

As you know, Mr. Kim Dae Jung is about to be tried by a court martial on charge of plotting rebellion and other crimes which I know from my personal relations with him are inconceivable. What I fear the most is that he will be sentenced to death or, at least, to life imprisonment.

Not only is the cruel fate facing Mr. Kim Dae Jung are serious matter from the standpoint of human rights, but an issue that can have a prfound and fatal impact on both Japan and the United States, which have long been allies and friend of the Republic of Korea.

As you know, Mr. Kim Dae Jung is a political leader who, inspired by the traditions of freedom and democracy of the United States, has dedicated his life to the task of resorting freedom and democracy in Korea for many years.

The fact that Mr. Kim Dae Jung is about to be tried by the present military leaders of Korea and the fact that he probably will be sentenced to death will bring to nought the sacrifies of tens of thousands of American youths who died in Korea and the millions of dollars in military expenditures by the United States over the past 30-odd years in defending freedom in Korea and the efforts of Japan to provide economic assistance and cooperation to Korea at the expense of Japanese tax payers.

I am afraid that if Mr. Kim Dae Jung is sentenced to death fresh disorders will break out in Korea, which could well lead to a new war on the Korean Peninsula. The recent spread of unrest military rule is of great concern to us.

Tokuma Utsunomiya

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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In Japan, today, both the Government, and the ruling and opposition parties are working to save Mr. Kim Dae Jung's life. However, there is a limit what Japan can do exertinginfluence of the military regime in Korea which seems to be running wild.

For this reason and in view of the seriousness of the situation I am appealing to you as an influential leader of the United States to turn your attention to this situation in Korea and the plight of Mr. Kim Dae Jung and to exert your influence in saving Mr. Kim Dae Jung from the terrible fate that surely awaits him and, thereby, help overcome the crisis now facing democracy in the Republic of Korea.

Sincerely,

Tokuma Utsunomiya

Tokuma UTSUNOMIYA